

By far the largest user of public land in the one mile fringe area is East Montgomery High School. The remainder is taken up by Biscoe Cemetery. The major portion of semi-public land use in Biscoe is devoted to use by the town's churches.

The Division of School Planning, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, sets certain minimum site standards for public schools. Elementary schools should have at least ten acres plus one additional acre for each 100 pupils enrolled. Biscoe Elementary School had 411 students in attendance during the school year 1968-69. Thus it should have a site of at least 14.1 acres. Its 12.9 acres does not meet this minimum standard. Therefore, immediate steps should be made to add at least two acres and preferably more. Some of this could be for future expansion and some for park-playground facilities for joint use by the school and the public in general.

The major problem with the location of Biscoe Elementary School is that a majority of the children have to cross the two most heavily traveled streets (U. S. 220 and N. C. 24-27) and the railroad to get to the school. With practically no sidewalks and no safely marked and lighted crosswalks, this creates an extremely dangerous situation. Sidewalks leading along the major streets to the school with well marked and lighted school crossings are needed to reduce this potentially deadly situation.

The minimum standards for a consolidated high school site call for at least 50 acres located on a major thoroughfare for easy bus and car access from all parts of town and the surrounding rural area served by the school. An entire farm of 118.6 acres was purchased for the site of this modern, well equipped school. This site provides ample room for the present facilities and adequate room to expand. It also provides for a biological field laboratory, a forestry laboratory and a field crops laboratory and nursery. Practically all of this large site is located within the one mile fringe area.

The high school property fronts on U. S. Highway 220 South. At present all of the traffic to this school, which serves 613